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drachm of the liquor is to be let to ascend. The hollow vessel is next to be heated to convert the liquor into vapour, and as soon as the vapour has filled it, the stop cock must be closed, and it must then be immersed in a vessel of cold water.—A vacuum is thus produced by the condensation of the vapour, in proportion to the size of the vessel, in a few minutes. The cupping glass is then to be screwed to the stop cock, and placed over the wound made by a lancet or leech: and by adjusting the suction by the stop cock, a gradual or sudden flow of blood may be produced. If the hollow vessel be of large dimensions, and the patient complain of the suction, the cock must be closed and the blood be either permitted to flow into the glass, or one turn of the screw must be moved backwards, to admit the air to pass through the thread of the screw into the glass. The reason of extending the stop cock so far within the hollow vessel, is to prevent the liquid in the ball from passing into the cupping glass, when the stop cock is opened.

On the great effect of Magnesia on calculary concretions, ascertained by Mr. Brande, at the suggestion of Mr. Hatchet.

At a meeting of the Royal Society, held on the 1st and 8th of February, a paper on uric acid, by Mr. Brande, communicated by the society for improving animal chemistry, was read. The author related the effects of the alkalies, and lime on the uric acid, and phosphats, in patients labouring under the influence of calculi, but in none of the cases which he stated were they successful in giving relief or curing disease.

Magnesia however had the desired effect, and brought off in the urine great quantities of uric acid and phosphats, in the form of triple salts. The discharge of these salts, after taking small doses of magnesia, was so copious, that the patients were radically or effectually cured in a few weeks.

The suggestion to use magnesia, was made by Mr. Hatchet (a gentleman well known for his great chemical abilities) who declared that of all substances it was the most likely to act on the uric acid, and experience has thus confirmed his conclusions, in the strongest manner.

Remark....This discovery is an additional proof to the many others, which have occurred of late years, of the advantage of chemical researches, and is highly creditable both to Mr. Hatchet who suggested, and to Mr. Brande who proved the fact. It is highly probable that the same medicine may be useful in the gout also, as this complaint is known to proceed from concretions of a similar nature to those which it removes.

The importance of the discovery, and the relief it may afford to numerous sufferers under the diseases which it may relieve, renders it a duty to make it as public as possible. We do not pretend to meddle with the medical department in general, but when an application of chemistry occurs so likely to be beneficial, it should not be rejected from our pages, because it related to a peculiar line of science.

The discovery appears of the greater authenticity from its receiving in some degree the sanction of the Royal Society, to whom it would not have been communicated, it is probable, if it had not received sufficient proof to satisfy Mr. Brande of its efficacy. The name of Mr. Hatchet also, with whom it originated, adds great weight to its probable value.

In the countries where poor wines, cyder, and stale malt liquors are the common beverage of the people, the complaints above-mentioned are much more common than in those where spirits and water are more used, as is the case in Ireland and Scotland. But the great danger of using this latter drink, is, that it will be made stronger than what is fit, when its constant use will occasion diseases equally distressing, though of a different nature. And although these countries are more free from the complaints alluded to than the others, yet the number of sufferers are sufficiently great to render the discovery of the utmost importance here as well as elsewhere.